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the COMIC READER
Number 157
June 1978

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The COMIC READER

June 1978
Volume 1, Number 157

OUR COVER: Bob Staszak has cooked up our first wraparound featuring the Green Lanterns of two Earths vs. Solomon Grundy and The Wizard. Characters ©1978 by DC Comics Inc.

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Executive Editor

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Associate Editor

TABLE OF CONTENTS:

DC News 2
Visual Publications News 5
Marvel News 6
Obituary 9
TCR Mailboat 9
Review 10
Media Review 10
Gold Key News And Coming Comics 12
Warren Coming Comics 12
Et Al 13
Archie Coming Comics 13
Harvey Coming Comics 14
Krupp Comics News 14
Pocket Checklist 15
Marvel Coming Comics 19
DC Coming Comics 21

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BACK ISSUES: #94-96, 98, 100-111, 113-116, 118, 120-124, 126-128, 131, 133-139, 142, 143 are 50¢ each. #145-150, 153-154, 156, 157 are 75¢ each. All others are sold out.

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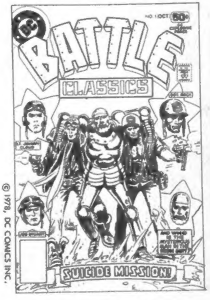
DC News

SHADE, THE CHANGING MAN's last issue was #8, out last month. The SHADE story scheduled for #9 will eventually appear somewhere (possibly in THE AMAZING WORLD OF DC COMICS), but the first ODD MAN adventure will appear in BLACK LIGHTNING #14.

Three books' frequency has been upped to monthly from bi-monthly: DC PRESENTS with #4, THE UNEXPECTED with #189, and WEIRD WESTERN TALES with #50.

Zatanna will get a new costume and will become the eighteenth member of the JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA in #161. (She's eighteenth if you count Snapper Carr, Metamorpho, Phantom Stranger and Sargon as members.)



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The HAWKMAN strip in DETECTIVE COMICS has been expanded to ten pages, and, beginning with #480, Murphy Anderson will return to pencil and ink the feature he spent so long doing in the sixties.

The new format dollar books (68 pages) will have square bindings, returning to the style of DC's annuals of the sixties and early seventies.

The rescheduled WORLD OF KRYPTON issues (timed to coincide with release of the SUPERMAN film) will be written by Paul Kupperberg, drawn by Howie Chaykin, and inked by

Murphy Anderson. Jor-El will not look like Marlon Brando.

Len Wein will write the dialogue for the lead story in SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER HEROES #246 (over Paul Levitz's plot) as well as writing the second story in that issue. He will write both stories in the following issue. Gerry Conway takes over with #248.

Joe Staton will pencil and ink the story in ALL-STAR #75.

Don Newton is filling in on the pencilling of DETECTIVE #480 which is Denny O'Neil's first new script for the book in some time. O'Neil is the new permanent writer for the book.

Howie Chaykin is pencilling the CINNAMON strip for WEIRD WESTERN #49.

A couple of veteran artists have work in two of next month's releases. Charles Nicholas, a mainstay of the Charlton line for the past twenty years and one of the last artists to draw PLASTIC MAN in the mid-fifties, has a story in HOUSE OF SECRETS #154. And Irwin Hasen, who draws and co-writes (with DC Managing Editor Joe Orlando) DONDI, returns to DC after twenty-five years with a story for WEIRD MYSTERY TALES #25.

Jim Starlin has done wrap-around covers for BATMAN FAMILY #20 and 21, the issues his own BATMAN stories appear in.

Ross Andru and Dick Giordano have reteamed to do covers for SUPERMAN #329, SUPERMAN FAMILY #192 and the second volume of THE BEST OF DC COMICS.

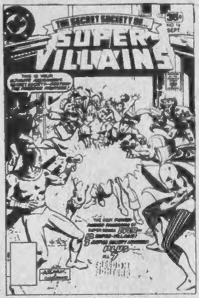
Steve Engelhart is writing a sixty-four page BATMAN FAMILY booklengther which will feature all five stars of the book. He's also scripting a 25 page WEIRD WAR TALES for late this year. He'll be free-lancing for awhile, with no regular assignments.

Below are the covers to two DC comics that will never reach the stands: SECRET SOCIETY OF SUPER-VILLAINS #16 and SHADE #9. We present them for your edification and interest.

Murphy Anderson is inking SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #245, which

SHOWCASE PRESENTS...
50¢
OSS
SPIES AT WAR
OFFICE OF STRATEGIC SERVICES
NEW
PIERCER THAN THE FIGHTING ON THE FRONT LINES WAS THE SECRET BATTLE BEHIND THE LINES
UNLESS THE IDENTITY OF THE SPY KNOWN AS ARTUR IS REVEALED WE WILL EXECUTE THESE TWO
HOW CAN I LET THEM SACRIFICE THEMSELVES FOR ME?!
© 1978 DC COMICS INC.

THE BIGGER WE ARE THE BETTER WE ARE!
50¢
DC COMICS PRESENTS
SUPERMAN AND THE FLASH
ONLY ONE OF US CAN PURSUE THAT ALIEN THROUGH THIS TIME-BARRIER, FLASH!
AND WHICHEVER ONE OF US DOESN'T MAKE IT THROUGH...
KILL EVERY...
THE MAN OF STEEL AND THE SCARLET SPEEDSTER RUN THROUGH TIME!
"RACE TO THE END OF TIME!"
25 PAGES OF PURE DC SUPER-ADVENTURE!



The first will appear in BRAVE AND THE BOLD #145, the second in a yet-to-be-scheduled issue.

Elliot Maggin's GREEN ARROW-BLACK CANARY story will appear in WORLD'S FINEST #255.

Jim Starlin will be doing the writing, pencilling and the wraparound cover to the SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES SPECTACULAR which will be out in October or November.

Booklength DOORWAY

was pencilled by Joe Staton. Murphy's increased activity can be attributed to the fact that he is now putting the majority of his efforts into comics again. He is the new designer on the DIRECT CURRENTS news sheet.

The "later issue" that we said Black Lightning's team-up with Superman in DC PRESENTS turns out to be #5. Len Wein's script will feature a new villain. It's Ross Andru's first issue as editor.

Howie Chaykin is pencilling two HUMAN TARGET stories which Dick Giordano will ink.

TO NIGHTMARE issues are in the works by writers Denny O'Neil, Cary Burkett, Catherine Andrews and Stuart Hoppin, and Bill Kelley.

Mike Grell will not ink WARLORD starting with #15, which will be inked by Josef Rubinstein. His efforts will be directed toward his new STARSLAYER book which he will write and draw. It should be out by the end of the year.

Dave Hunt is inking BATMAN #305 and 306 over John Calnan.

Vince Colletta is the regular inker for Bob Oksner's VIXEN. Gerry Conway is writing, Jack C. Harris is the editor.

ARMY AT WAR #2 will feature stories drawn by Rick Estrada, Dick Ayers and Larry Hama.

Tom DeFalco, Romeo Tanghal and Bob Smith are the regular team on CLAW THE UNCONQUERED as of #14.

BATMAN FAMILY #21, besides the wraparound Jim Starlin cover, has the BATMAN

story written and pencilled by Starlin and inked by Craig Russell, the first DEMON episode by Len Wein, Mike Golden and an inker, MAN-BAT by Bob Rozakis and Don Newton, BATGIRL by Rozakis, Don Heck and Bob Smith, and ROBIN by Rozakis and Newton.

ACTION COMICS #489 has a cover by Ross Andru and Dick Giordano.

Marshall Rogers and Bob Layton have a story in HOUSE OF MYSTERY #265.

Kyle Christopher has a story in HOUSE OF SECRETS #157.

DYNAMIC CLASSICS #2 will feature "Planet Of The Angels" from SUPERMAN #236 by Dennis O'Neil, Curt Swan and Murphy Anderson as well as the second MANHUNTER story by Archie Goodwin and Walt Simonson from DETECTIVE #438 and a one-page Bemi Wrightson strip, "The Hound Of Night" from UNEXPECTED #121.

DC is a bit uninformed about whether CHALLENGE OF THE SUPER FRIENDS is a spin-off from SUPER FRIENDS or not. Before the fall Saturday schedule was announced, they told us that new episodes had been ordered. We'll have to wait.

The uncredited backup strips in SGT. ROCK have been done by members of the Joe Kubert School since #310. To give some credit where credit is due, here are a few of the people involved: #310 had lettering by Rick Taylor; #311 was drawn by Steve Bissette and Rick Veitch, with lettering by Elaine Heinl; #312 was drawn by Tom Yeates (who has a story coming up in GHOSTS); #314's Battle Album was drawn by Veitch; "#315 had a backup by Veitch; and #316 had a backup drawn by Veitch and various other classmates, with some lettering by Heinl. We'll publish further credits when we are told what they are.

The five-digit "bi-pad" numbers that used to appear underneath the date and price on the covers have been removed since they also appear in the Universal Product Code symbol at the bottom of the page.

SUGAR AND SPIKE, the Sheldon Mayer creations, are being used in experimental educational television in Columbus, Ohio on the QUBE system. It apparently is something like the old Sunday morning comics-reading TV shows, only this time used to teach children to read. No super-hero books are involved.

Whitman, obviously in anticipation of the now postponed SUPERMAN film, has begun a toy-store blitz of Superman merchandise, including plastic bagged DC Comics with the Whitman symbol. We've seen two bags with two issues of ACTION COMICS and one each of SUPERMAN so far. Coloring books make up the rest of the display.

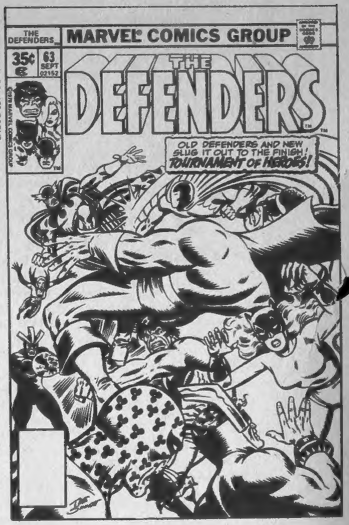
Al Milgrom wants us to know about the volleyball team he captains on Wednesday nights and Sundays that includes Jim Starlin, Walt Simonson, Archie Goodwin, Jim Shooter, Roger McKenzie, Bob McLeod, Helen Katz, Steve Mitchell, Mike Fleisher, Greg Theakston, Carl Potts, Cary Bates, Jim Sherman, Alan Weiss, Tony Dispoto, and Neal Adams (and, on occasion, Len Wein and Mike Kaluta). With this many players, it's no mystery as to why the team has a perfect record: Since they play themselves, they always win (though they always lose, too).

Visual Publications

1 -- ALIEN, the retitled series of stories begun as WEIRD HEROES, will be out in November from Grosset and Dunlap. Terry Austin will be illustrator of the first volume. Ken Smith did the cover.

The 112 page book we mentioned in #155 is called EMPIRE. Samuel Delaney and Howie Chaykin did it. The hardcover book will cost $24.95

Visual Publications is publishing a companion volume to its ILLUSTRATED ZELAZNY. THE ILLUSTRATED HARLAN ELLISON will feature stories illustrated by Neal Adams, Jim Steranko, Bill Stout, Tom Sutton and others. Among the stories are "Deeper Than The Darkness" and "Croatoan" by Tom Sutton and Alfredo Alcala. The Adams strip is sixteen pages of process color; the book is 96 pages and is mostly color work. As before, a chapter will appear in HEAVY METAL. Michael Whelan did the cover. The collector's edition from Baronet Books (509 Madison Avenue, New York, NY 10022)which is signed by Harlan Ellison (a limited, numbered hardcover edition) costs $14.95 plus 95¢ for postage. It can be ordered now.



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Marvel News

Marvel has three new books on their agenda although none have been scheduled as yet. The first is a revival of THE SUB-MARINER, this one to be written by David Michelinie and drawn by Pablo Marcos. The second is based upon the MICRONAUTS dolls by Mego (as shown this issue and last in preliminary drawings by Bob Hall), and will take place in a sub-atomic universe. It will be by Bill Mantlo, Mike Golden and (tentatively) Joe Rubinstein. The third new book is also based upon children's toys, this one called SHOGUN WARRIORS, which will be done by Doug Moench, Herb Trimpe and Dan Green.

On the schedule, however, are two additions to the Hanna-Barbera line: The first was supposed to be listed in the last issue and is called HANNA-BARBERA TV STARS; the second will be out this month and is called HANNA-BARBERA'S SPOTLIGHT. As usual, we've got no idea of their contents, though we assume they're umbrella-titled books which will feature a bunch of H-B's characters and that Mark Evanier is the writer of both.

Marvel has found a new way to celebrate anniversary issues: the 60¢, 48 page comic book. FANTASTIC FOUR #200, out in August, will be double-sized, as will MARVEL TALES #100. The latter, out in November, will feature the usual reprint (of AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #163), a reprint of "The Secrets Of Spider-Man" by Stan Lee and Steve Ditko, a pin-up (new) of Spider-Man by Gil Kane and Joe Rubinstein, "How To Draw Spider-Man" by John Romita, and an all-new HAWKEYE-TWO-GUN KID story by Scott Edelman, Mike Nasser and Terry Austin.

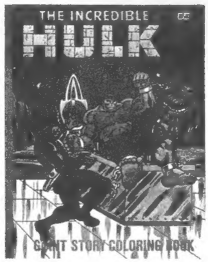
A long time ago we mentioned a book-in-the-works featuring THE LIBERTY LEGION. The book never came to be but a couple of issues were done and to use them THE INVADERS will be sent stateside where they will, naturally, meet up with the Legion. The LL pages will be incorporated into the INVADERS continuity.

The first issue of the new 60¢ color THOR book (which will probably be called THOR, THE MIGHTY) will feature Thor at the Trojan War and the revelation that Thor was one of Rome's founding fathers. Future issues will feature Thor at various historical epochs.

Jack Kirby is very busy these days doing the storyboards for the new FANTASTIC FOUR cartoon series that Stan Lee and Roy Thomas are providing scripts for. For this reason, MACHINE MAN and DEVIL DINOSAUR will suspend publication with #9 of each pending sales reports. Marvel expects the suspensions to be temporary.

Steve Englehart has been to the Marvel offices and may do some things for the try-out books or the magazine line.

THE STARLORD will be appearing in at least three separate formats in the ensuing months. An upcoming issue of MARVEL PREMIERE, normally a regular-sized color comic, will feature STARLORD in black and white, in an attempt to try the black and white format in a different



fantino and be called "Cooking With Gas" -- a story about psychiatry and germ warfare; #29 will be plotted by Mark Evanier.

THE AVENGERS #178 will be the Steve Gerber-Carmine Infantino-Rudy Nebres special issue and will be followed by a two-parter by Tom DeFalco and Jim Mooney.

There will be a crossover between CAPTAIN AMERICA and THE INCREDIBLE HULK courtesy of Roger Stern, Roger McKenzie and Sal Buscema.

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size than that of a magazine. Also scheduled (for late summer) is another in the $1.50 color-magazine format, UNKNOWN WORLDS OF SCIENCE FICTION, which will feature STARLORD. The 14th issue of MARVEL PREVIEW actually was a STARLORD issue, rather than a Detectives issue as we said. The latter will probably be in fifteen.

Following Roy Thomas' departure from WHAT IF? around #16, Jim Shooter will take over as editor and Mark Gruenwald will be acting story editor (Certainly a unique title!). In the works under their auspices are "What If Dr. Doom Were A Hero?" by Don Glut, and "Thor Vs. Odin's Edicts About Jane Foster's Immortality" (or "The Avengers In Asgard") by Peter Gillis.

The Belit series in CONAN will end in CONAN #100. John Buscema is leaving THOR to do full pencils (and possibly inks) on CONAN.

Speaking of THOR, the current sequence featuring Harrison Hobbs will be followed by at least a four-parter featuring The Eternals.

HOWARD THE DUCK #28 and 29 will be special issues: #28 will be plotted by Marv Wolfman, written by Mary Skrenes and drawn by Carmine In-

There will be an all-out battle with The Corporation, the revelation of secrets about The Falcon and Jim Wilson, and a battle with Animus.

Spymaster will return in IRON MAN under hire of a select cadre of high-echelon officials.

Upcoming team-ups slated for MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE include The Thing and Hercules, The Thing and Captain Marvel, The Thing and Human Torch, The Thing and The Hulk, The Thing and Black Bolt (in a two-parter), and, for the 50th issue, The Thing and The Thing.

Paul Gulacy did the cover

to RAWHIDE KID #147.

An upcoming CAPTAIN AMERICA will feature the debut of the Red Skull Squad.

Parkes Run Publishing of King Of Prussia, PA has issued two large (17" x 22") GIANT STORY COLORING BOOKs, one featuring an adaptation of the first SPIDER-MAN story by David Kraft, John Romita, Jr. and Sam Grainger, the other featuring an adaptation of the HULK stories in TALES TO ASTONISH #94-96 by Kraft, Gary Brodsky and Joe Sinnott. We got them for $1.69 each in a local toy store.

Through some sort of oversight, we missed listing the MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE ANNUAL #3 that was on sale in late April. For the record, it features "When Strike The Monitors" by Marv Wolfman, Sal Buscema, Frank Giacoia and Dave Hunt and it stars The Thing and Nova in battle with The Monitors. Buscema and an inker we can't identify did the cover. [4/25]

Hoy Murphy of Parkersburg, WV happened to be on hand at Moncon II in Morgantown, WV which had Stan Lee as guest-speaker. Stan had plenty of interest to say and these are some of them:

Jack Kirby has signed a new "long-term" contract with Marvel which calls for him to draw only. Lee called Kirby's writing style "imaginative but undisciplined" and expressed confidence that the quality of Kirby's work would improve under more disciplined writers.

THE SILVER SURFER Book has gone to the printers and should be out by the fall. Stan said it will involve Galactus and a new love interest for the Surfer; he also characterized the art as better than Kirby's recent stuff, though not his best.

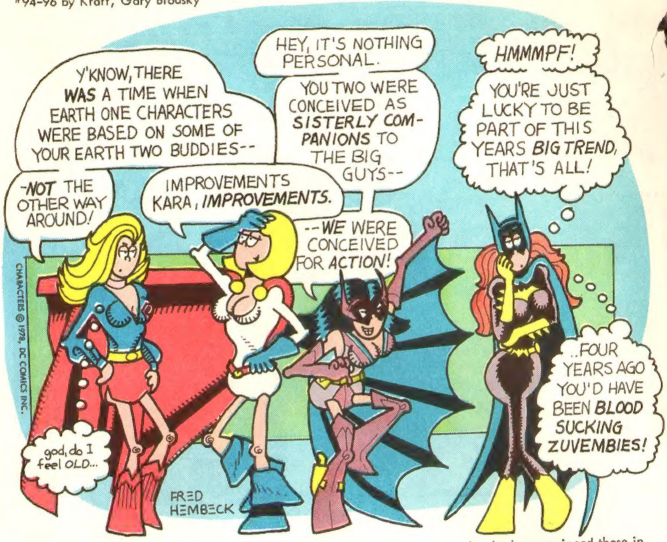
The NBC FANTASTIC FOUR cartoon (supplied by DePatie-Freleng, with whom Marvel has entered into partnership) will be written by Stan and Roy Thomas with storyboards by Jack Kirby. Unfortunately, since the Human Torch was optioned for live action by Universal, the character can't be used in the cartoon. As replacement, a "cute robot who argues with the Thing" has been created.

Unfortunately again, the Human Torch won't appear as its own show because CBS is fearful of imitation imolation by young viewers.

Stan expressed dissatisfaction with the writing of the HULK and SPIDER-MAN shows, describing the stories as being written outside in (a situation is thought up and the character is thrown in) instead of his preference, inside out (situation built around the character). He has hopes that he has convinced those in charge that next season's episodes be better written and thought out. He is in agreement with the absence of super-villains, citing the old BATMAN show as the kind of show that CBS does not want to emulate since they want an adult audience too.

The script is completed for the DR. STRANGE film, and the special effects budget is large. Stan said the actor cast as Strange looks like Steve Ditko's version.

The script for CAPTAIN AMERICA's TV pilot is almost finished (as of April 1st) and the origin will be altered so that Cap can be created in the present


Y'KNOW, THERE WAS A TIME WHEN EARTH ONE CHARACTERS WERE BASED ON SOME OF YOUR EARTH TWO BUDDIES--
HEY, IT'S NOTHING PERSONAL.
YOU TWO WERE CONCEIVED AS SISTERLY COMPANIONS TO THE BIG GUYS--
HMMMPF!
YOU'RE JUST LUCKY TO BE PART OF THIS YEARS BIG TREND, THAT'S ALL!
-NOT THE OTHER WAY AROUND!
IMPROVEMENTS KARA, IMPROVEMENTS.
--WE WERE CONCEIVED FOR ACTION!
...FOUR YEARS AGO YOU'D HAVE BEEN BLOOD SUCKING ZUVEMBIES!
god, do I feel OLD...
FRED HEMBECK
CHARACTERS © 1976 DC COMICS INC.

rather than World War II. He'll be "sort of like John Wayne," with conservative leanings, Stan said, and the hardest part will be finding a reason for him to wear the costume. [Apparently Ron Ely hasn't been approached to do the role; Jeff Rovin asked him about it and Ely had never even heard of the character.]

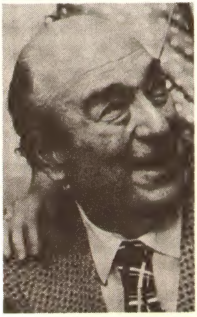
Stan expressed desires to do only color $1.50 magazines and no black and whites, mentioning SGT. PEPPER, PETER FRAMPTON, ELVIS PRESLEY, LINDA RONSTADT and another KISS book as works in progress. He mentioned that BLACKMARK (by Gil Kane) will reappear in some form, and that he wants to revive UNKNOWN WORLDS OF SCIENCE FICTION if Roy Thomas will edit it.

Lastly, Stan mentioned that he had been unhappy with the first SUPERMAN-SPIDER-MAN team-up book because he felt DC gained more prestige than Marvel, but now that the SUPERMAN film is slated to come out, he feels it "couldn't hurt" to do a reprise.

[All the above remarks are quoted almost verbatim from Hoy Murphy's report. Since we will only be making it to the Chicago convention this year, we'd appreciate other con attendees' reports of news announced at other conventions around the country. Thank you, Hoy.]

Obituary

Mort Weisinger, longtime DC editor and guide of the Superman legend, died Sunday, May 7 of a heart attack at the age of 63. He and friend Julius Schwartz published an early science-fiction fanzine, THE TIME TRAVELLER in the thirties and after a stint at editing THRILLING WONDER STORIES, a science-fiction pulp, Mort took on the job of Story Editor of the DC line in 1941 under Whitney Ellsworth. His tenure lasted thirty years and in that time he was responsible for nearly 1000 comic books featuring Superman and the Superman family characters, plotting most of them himself. He was responsible for spinning off JIMMY OLSEN and LOIS LANE, for instigating SUPERGIRL, the Phantom Zone, science-fiction explanations for Superman's powers and origins, and the largest total circulation for any group of comic books for all time. At the same time, he wrote screenplays for serials (VIGILANTE, SUPERMAN, BATMAN), was chief writer and story editor on the SUPERMAN TV show and the later cartoon version, edited the SUPERMAN and BATMAN comic strips, edited DETECTIVE and BATMAN during the forties and fifties, created Aquaman, Air Wave, Johnny Quick, Vigilante and TNT, and had the time to do weekly columns for the THIS WEEK and PARADE Sunday newspaper supplements. He retired from comics in 1970 as Vice President in charge of Public Relations for DC, but continued to free-lance for magazines (a Mort Weisinger anecdote from PARADE appears in this month's READER'S DIGEST) and write books.



Although both fandom and he were disillusioned about his contribution to comics when he retired, this much is undeniable: Mort Weisinger was responsible for more entertainment in his tenure than nearly anyone else involved in comics. It is very possible that had his style and ideas of comic producing not fallen out of favor in the late sixties, comics might be doing twice as well as they are now. [Information culled from WHO'S WHO OF AMERICAN COMIC BOOKS, Jerry Bails and Hames Ware, editors. The four-volume set can be obtained from Jerry Bails at 487 Lakewood, Detroit, MI 48215 for $27.00.]

TCR Mailboat

WILLIAM D. BUCK, 7433 Mason Avenue, Canoga Park, CA 91306: I've just finished reading Rona Blabbit's column in TCR #155 and although I agree, for the most part anyway, with the review of the QUARK TV show, I have something which must be said for the sake of science fiction in general.

Science fiction has been fighting respectability in films, television and books ever since it began, and to bring a television show on the air which spoofs it is unfair to sf at this time. The general audience is not likely to receive sf in its proper context (look what happened to the BATMAN show in the mid-sixties). I'm not saying sf shouldn't be spoofed, but give it a chance to gain the recognition it deserves. Most of the sf on television in the last ten years has ranged from good (VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA) to excellent (STAR TREK), but let's see them do Herbert's DUNE or Asimov's FOUNDATION trilogy or Simak's CITY. With material like this around I'm surprised the Hollywood people haven't jumped on the bandwagon. They seem to be caught up in the negative syndrome that most people have against sf in general. They think it's the pulp stuff of the thirties (not to knock the fine films such as THE DAY THE EARTH STOOD STILL, FORBIDDEN PLANET and 2001: A SPACE ODYSSEY, among others). But, until sf gains the recognition it deserves, I feel it is premature to spoof it.

[Rona replies: Of course I disagree. QUARK spoofs a very popular television series which won't be hurt in the least by any jabs sent its way, and the whole thing is done with love for the genre. The public's concept of science fiction is probably a true one, given the shows and movies done over the years (VOYAGE TO THE BOTTOM OF THE SEA is a hilarious spoof of the genre itself, unintentionally). I think if science fiction fans can laugh at QUARK, it shows that they're intelligent enough to retain a sense of humor about sf and not be the boring, strident purists that can never enjoy anything. Which doesn't mean that we shouldn't hope that intelligent science fic-

tion be done cinematically in the future; indeed, NBC is doing THE MARTIAN CHRONICLES for next season as a mini-series, so there is some hope on the horizon for your wishes to come true. I'm crossing my fingers, though, that QUARK is picked up for next season, because I like to laugh.
- Rona Blabbit]

JOHN BYRNE, Calgary, Alberta: I've been hearing fans talk about how "different" or "unusual" my style is for the last four-or-so years. Nevertheless, seeing myself in such distinguished company as Gene Colan and Frank Robbins, as in Andy's COMMENT in #155, came as something of a shock.

When I look at my work -- which I do from the vantage of my own hardest critic -- all I see is a poor man's amalgam of influences. As Roger Stern put it (kindly): "A rather pleasant mixture of Adams, Kane and Kirby." Yet many fans praise my stuff because of the (imagined) absence of these very influences.

Confusing to say the least. When I was doing ROG-2000 for Charlton, even when I was doing a dramatic strip like DOOMSDAY + 1, most fans compared my style to that of Joe Staton. True, both Joe and I are very influenced by Gil Kane, and at Charlton the --- unfortunate printing forced us both into a predominately linear style, but beyond that, neither of us is aware of any similarities.

Perhaps it's the influence of the British artists: Bellamy, Hampson, Cornwall, et al, with whose work I grew up and by whom I was first influenced, which gives American audiences their feelings of divergent style when viewing my work. Whatever the case, it's interesting to note the different reactions a single piece of work can illicit from different viewers.

And comic art is probably the only field (given different inkers, letterers, colorists, etc.) wherein only the more subtle variations in style can sometimes be judged.

Curious.

[But no one else draws like John Byrne. That's what's important. AH]

Review

A lot of television critics get up in arms whenever a relatively old form of television airs: the docudrama. This form combines factual material with altered facts to provide what the creators feel is a more dramatically successful program. Often times, real events occur out of sequence, with different people, or time is telescoped, and in most cases critics can't understand why anything was changed. The writers and producers claim artistic license.

A MARVEL SUPER SPECIAL No. 4 features THE BEATLES STORY, The Ultimate Unauthorized Beatles Book. It is not a docudrama. The form this magazine takes is closest to the industrial comic books that used to be produced in the fifties and sixties: Heavy-handed, plodding and dull. There IS no drama in the magazine.

David Anthony Kraft and friends have taken what has to be one of the most incredible, interesting and exciting stories of the last twenty years and reduced it to turgid captions over very inaccurate portrayals of the Beatles. Most of the narration is factual (although errors abound: the first Hamburg visit occured in April, 1960 instead of Autumn of '59; the Silver Beatles was never spelled with two 'e's, and Pete Best was dumped because of the insistence of George Martin, not the Beatles themselves; Stu Sutcliffe died the day before they returned to Hamburg in April of '62; indeed, the text indicates the Beatles spent two years in Hamburg, when, in fact, they never spent more than a couple of months there at a time; the Beatles remain in matching suits through '65 although they'd stopped a year before; Mary Hopkin is called "Mary Hopkins"; and HEY JUDE was definitely not "the last great Beatle song specifically designed as release as a single" -- GET BACK, THE BALLAD OF JOHN & YOKO and LET IT BE were all non-album singles that came out after HEY JUDE) but the selection of events to portray is bewildering, almost as if the authors had only THE MAN WHO SOLD THE BEATLES and THE LAST COCKTAIL PARTY as their source material.

And the dialogue! Besides being every bit as accurate a portrayal of British speech as that in CAPTAIN BRITAIN, all of it is purely expository and nearly all of it could easily be interchanged between the Beatles without any loss to the "story." The dialogue has all the depth of a quickie in PEOPLE Magazine, and it doesn't even have the benefit of direct quotes.

The most basic failure of the thing as a comic book is that it ignores all basic story-telling devices that make good comics (a dramatic structure, for one thing), substituting the kind of teen-magazine history retelling that nobody wanted or needed. The one bow to comics structure, the foreshadowing of Brian Epstein's death, is so heavy handed, however, that one wonders if we aren't more fortunate having a "newsreel" approach rather than a "comics" one.

I could go on (I don't know where Mark Esposito got the outrageous idea that 15,000 fans appear in A HARD DAY'S NIGHT; Richard Lester states they were paid extras, and only several hundred could possibly fit in that tiny little theatre), but I think the total irony is best measured against this, from David Kraft's editorial: "... Comics is a native American art form -- and is the one medium which can reconstruct the exact settings, the youthful appearances of the individuals, and the ambience of the times with such accuracy... It is not a quickie rip-off."

No further comment.

- Mike Tiefenbacher

Media Review

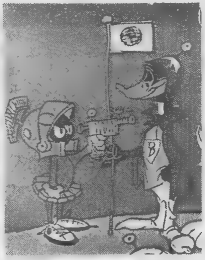
It's that time of year again. Anticipation and disappointment, nodding "great"s, loud "mallet-heads!" and astonished "huh?"s can be felt rippling across the country. The cause? Announcement of the fall new network TV schedules. So far only CBS and ABC have let their cats (or turkies) out of the bag, but the predictable effect upon videophiles have already begun. Cancelled so far have been SIX MILLION DOLLAR MAN, BARETTA, FISH, NANCY DREW (on ABC), BOB NEWHART, TONY RANDALL, CAROL BURNETT, MAUDE, ON OUR OWN, BABY I'M BACK, SAM,

and HUSBANDS, WIVES AND LOVERS (on CBS) plus some short-run series that, although never actually cancelled, may never return. (This probably includes TED KNIGHT, which got lousy ratings because of its time slot.) Of those cancelled, the only real loss I feel is that of the TONY RANDALL SHOW (since I knew BOB NEWHART would be gone), CBS' last bastion of the old MARY TYLER MOORE style sitcom, and a really funny show besides. (Glad to see the MTM ripoff, ON OUR OWN, bite the dust, despite respectable ratings. A poor excuse for a sitcom, the show is probably going to be the new "norm" if recent product is any indication. It's a shame.) The new schedule already has a couple of major schedule conflicts for those of us who cannot yet afford a videotape machine, and it's only two-thirds complete.

The first occurs on Sunday night. Following the renewed HARDY BOYS on ABC is the Universal (Glen Larson) science fiction show, (now titled) BATTLE STAR: GALACTICA, with Lorne Greene, Richard Hatch, Dirk Benedict, Jane Seymour and Lew Ayres (as a doctor?) in future space courtesy of producers Leslie Stevens (OUTER LIMITS) and John Dykstra (STAR WARS), which is followed by the ABC movie. On CBS, following 60 MINUTES, will be MARY, Mary Tyler Moore's return in a variety format. The producers of that show will be Tom Patchett and Jay Tarses, who were responsible for the best seasons of BOB NEWHART and the two seasons of TONY RANDALL, meaning that MARY should be very good. Unfortunately, it's on opposite GALACTICA. ALL IN THE FAMILY, ALICE and KAZ (Ron Liebman as a prison-educated lawyer, with Patrick O'Neal) complete Sunday.

Monday on ABC will start with MORK AND MINDY, a HAPPY DAYS spin-off starring Robin Williams as Mork from the planet Ork and Pam Dawber as his Earth girlfriend. (Mork appeared in Richie Cunningham's dream in a 1978 episode of HAPPY DAYS, in case you were wondering.) It's followed by a miraculously reprieved OPERATION. PETTICOAT and football (which will be replaced by new HOW THE WEST WAS WON in late December). CBS has PEOPLE (based on the magazine, with Phyllis George as host), WKRP IN CINCINNATI, about a small radio station that switches from oldies to rock (from MTM with no one I've heard of; directed by MTM's Jay Sandrich), M*A*S*H (with Loretta Swit -- she changed her mind, I guess), ONE DAY AT A TIME and LOU GRANT.

ABC's Tuesday has HAPPY DAYS, LAVERNE AND SHIRLEY and THREE'S COMPANY, then TAXI, about New York cab drivers (no stars yet, but former MTM writers Jim Brooks, Ed. Weinberger, Stan Daniels and Dave Davis are in charge, with BOB NEWHART's last producers Glen and Les Charles), then



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STARSKY AND HUTCH. CBS has PAPER CHASE, with John Houseman reprising his movie role, then a movie slot.

Wednesday is all old except for one show: Following EIGHT IS ENOUGH and CHARLIE'S ANGELS will be VEGAS, an Aaron Spelling show starring Robert Urich (from TABITHA and SOAP). CBS has THE JEFFERSONS, GOOD TIMES and a movie.

Thursday is totally old stuff. ABC has WELCOME BACK, KOTTER, WHAT'S HAPPENING, BARNEY MILLER, SOAP and FAMILY; CBS has THE WALTONS, HAWAII FIVE-O and BARNABY JONES.

On Friday, ABC sticks with DONNY AND MARIE and the movie. And CBS stays with super-heroes with WONDER WOMAN and THE INCREDIBLE HULK. They're followed by FLYING HIGH, CBS' answer to CHARLIE'S ANGELS apparently, with Pat Klous, Connie Selleca and Kathryn Witt as three stewardesses.

The week ends with two new Norman Lear productions against each other. ABC's CARTER COUNTRY is followed by APPLE PIE, a '30s comedy starring Rue McClannahan, Jack Gilford, Richard Libertini and Dabney Coleman, LOVE BOAT and FANTASY ISLAND. CBS has RHODA, followed by JUST THE BEGINNING with McLean Stevenson as a conservative priest and Priscilla Lopez as a liberal nun (obviously, it -- and APPLE PIE -- is a Lear show), AMERICAN GIRLS (Priscilla Barnes and Debra Clinger travelling the U.S. as producers of a 60 MINUTES-type news show), and DALLAS.

The obvious, automatic query is where's SPIDER-MAN? Well, the ratings were good enough that its chances of returning is pretty good (and I hope somebody will buy him a new costume or at least sew up the seams on the old one!) when the inevitable failures occur in October or November. Definitely set to return when something dies are LUCAN (MGM's American Tarzan) and JULIE FARR, M.D.

Speaking of TV super-heroes, was anyone else as offended by the full-scale plagiarism of the TV movie DUEL (Steven Spielberg's first film) in the lady truckdriver episode of THE INCREDIBLE HULK as I was? The entire chase was lifted almost in toto. (It occurs to me that both Marvel shows succeed almost totally because of the appeal of Bill Bixby and Nicholas Hammond and not of their alter egos. I don't think that's as it should be.)

At the Filmex film festival in Los Angeles at the end of April, Chuck Jones announced that Warner Brothers has contacted him to direct new theatrical cartoons starring Bugs Bunny, Daffy Duck, Porky Pig, The Road Runner and Wile E. Coyote, including a sequel to DUCK DODGERS IN THE 24TH & 1/2 CENTURY, which Steven Spiel-

berg has volunteered to write. (Jones is advising on Spielberg's comedy called 1941, which he will write gags for and time the editing). Real Warner Brothers cartoons were last done in '63 (although the cartoon department hobbled along until '69 before closing) when the budgets were less than a third of the current $90,000 for a six-minute cartoon. (By comparison, the TV specials have only had $200,000 to work with, which is a little more than half the per minute budget for the new theatricals.) It's possible that many of the old Warner Brothers crew will be available, but it's yet to be seen whether the quality of the '40s and '50s can be attained again. Let's hope Mel Blanc, the old Warner music library and plenty of good clean cartoon violence is present in the new cartoons.

A recent VARIETY mentioned that producer John Goldstone said that the Monty Python movie, BRIAN OF NAZARETH, has acquired American funding and will probably start production in late June. However, the Monty Python fan club (P.O. Box 1063, Radio City Station, New York, NY 10019) says in their newsletter that MONTY PYTHON'S NEW FILM will probably not begin filming (in sweltering Tunisia) until September. The idea that these are two separate projects could be cultivated except for the fact that the latter is "an intergalactic struggle set in approximately 33 A.D." Since BRIAN is about the thirteenth apostle, it's more than probable that they are the same film.

The only person to correctly respond to my trivia question of last issue (so far, at least) was Michael Dunne of Quincy, MA. He correctly identified transporter operator Lt. Kyle (John Winston) as the only semi-regular STAR TREK crew member not yet mentioned as being in STAR TREK, THE MOTION PICTURE. Kyle rarely got listed in the credits, but was frequently there to be impatiently shoved out of the way by Scotty or Spock whenever the transporter malfunctioned, which happened a lot. A couple of others appeared more than once, but none as regularly as Winston did as Kyle.

- Rona Blabbit

Gold Key News

In a rare bit of inter-company cooperation, Charlton Editor George Wildman has been engaged to do the Gold Key POPEYE comic along with Charlton's assistant editor Bill Pearson. The stories will be book-lengthers, and Pearson and Wildman will be bringing back Alice the Goon, Castor Oyl and Oscar. Bud Sagendorf is consulting to see that the POPEYE continuity is adhered to. [Information culled from an interview with George Wildman from RUBBER CITY BLUES No. 3, $1.25 from Steven Alan Bennett, 842 Hunt Street, Akron, OH 44306. The issue's other contents include three amateur comic strips.]

Coming Comics

Walt Disney DONALD DUCK No. 198, August. Reprints. [6/1]

Walt Disney HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUIE No. 51, August. New. [6/1]

Walt Disney MICKEY MOUSE No. 186, August. Reprints. [6/1]

TOM AND JERRY No. 309, August. Reprints. [6/1]

THE TWILIGHT ZONE No. 86, August. Reprints. [6/1]

WOODY WOODPECKER No. 169, August. New. [6/1]

YOSEMITE SAM And Bugs Bunny No. 54, August. New. [6/1]

BUGS BUNNY No. 199, August. New. [6/8]

Walt Disney DAISY AND DONALD No. 32, August. New. [6/8]

THE PINK PANTHER No. 55, August. New. [6/8]

PORKY PIG No. 83, August. New. [6/8]

STAR TREK No. 54, August. New. [6/8]

Walt Disney UNCLE SCROOGE No. 155, August. Reprints. [6/8]

Walt Disney BEAGLE BOYS No. 43, August. New. [6/22]

BORIS KARLOFF TALES OF MYSTERY No. 83, August. New and reprint. 48 pages. [6/22]

FAT ALBERT And The Cosby Kids No. 26, August. New. [6/22]

LITTLE LULU No. 247, August. New. [6/22]

LOONEY TUNES No. 21, August. New. [6/22]

TWEETY AND SYLVESTER No. 84, August. New. [6/22]

UFOS AND OUTER SPACE No. 16, August. Reprints. [6/22]

BEETLE BAILEY No. 122, August. New. [6/29]

DAFFY DUCK No. 117, August. New. [6/29]

RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! No. 80, August. New and reprint. [6/29]

Walt Disney SUPER GOOF No. 48, August. New. [6/29]

UNDERDOG No. 20, August. New. [6/29]

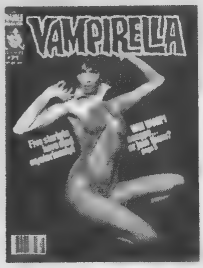
WALT DISNEY COMICS AND STORIES No. 455, August. New and reprint material. [6/29]

Walt Disney WINNIE THE POOH No. 8, August. New. [6/29]

Warren Coming Comics

EERIE No. 94, August. This issue will probably include: "The Annihilator" by Bill DuBay and Luis Bermejo; "Honor And Blood, Part 2" by Nick Cuti and Leopoldo Duranona; "The Space-Age Kids" by Bill DuBay and Luis Fernandez; "Nightwalk" by Bruce Jones and Leo Sanchez; and "Dead Man's Ship" by Nick Cuti and Allan Moniz. Don Maitz did the cover. [6/13]

VAMPIRELLA No. 71, August. Tentatively scheduled stories are: "The Collector" by Bill DuBay and Jose Gonzalez; "Australopithacus" by Bruce Jones and Leo Duranona; "Night Of The Chicken" by Mike Fleisher and Jess Jodloman; "Whisper Of Dark Eyes" by Gerry Boudreau and Auraleon; and "Sorceress" by DuBay and Esteban Maroto. The cover is a photograph of



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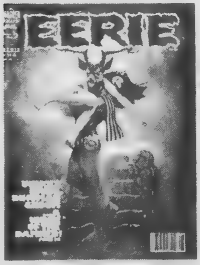
Barbara Leigh as Vampirella. [6/13]

1984 No. 2, August. No information concerning the contents of this issue was available at press time. [6/20]



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CREEPY No. 100, August. In this issue: "Hell Hound" by Bruce Jones and Russ Heath; "Tale Of A Fox" by Nick Cuti and Jose Ortiz; "Myron Meek" by Bill DuBay and John Severin; "A Game Of Sharn" by Bruce Jones and Ramon Torrents; "Winner Take All" by Len Wein and Luis Bermejo, in color; "They'll Be Turning Out The Lights" by DuBay and Alex Nino; and "A Crack In The Earth" by Gerry Boudreau and Pablo Marcos. Bob Larkin did the cover. [6/27]

FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND No. 146, August. [6/27]

Et Al

Gil Kane has won the 1977 National Cartoonist Society Award for Best Story Strip of 1977 for STAR HAWKS. It's his fourth award from the NCS, the first three resulting from his work at Marvel in the '70s. [STAR HAWKS appears in the Menomonee Falls GAZETTE whenever we have enough money to publish it.]

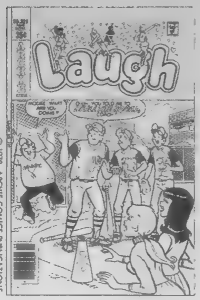
Cartoonerville, The Gallery Of Original Comic Art, is having a two-month exhibition of Marvel Comics original art. On Saturday, May 20th (assuming this issue has come out too late to catch Tony DeZuniga on May 6th and John Buscema on May 13th), Gene Colan will appear to discuss comics as an art form; on May 27th, Frank Springer will discuss comics as a career; June 3rd will feature John Romita speaking about the transition from comic books to comic strips for superheroes; and on June 10th, Stan Lee will discuss the future of comic books. The artists and writers will be there from 2:00 PM to 4:00 PM on those days only, but a gallery displaying and selling the works of most of Marvel's artists will be open from now through June 30th. The Gallery is located at 105 Woodbury Road (just off Route 25-A) in Huntington, Long Island, New York. They're open Wednesday through Sunday from noon until 4:00 PM. For information, phone (516) 423-1010.

Archie Coming Comics

ARCHIE AND ME No. 103, August. [5/23]

ARCHIE'S JOKEBOOK No. 247, August. [5/23]

ARCHIE GIANT SERIES MAGAZINE No. 471, August. This issue features ARCHIE'S JOKES. [5/23]



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ARCHIE'S PALS 'N' GALS No. 125, August. [5/23]

BETTY AND VERONICA No. 272, August. [5/23]

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PEP No. 340, August. [5/23]

JUGHEAD No. 279, August. [5/30]

LAUGH No. 329, August. [5/30]

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LIFE WITH ARCHIE No. 196, August. [5/30]

LITTLE ARCHIE No. 133, August. [5/30]

REGGIE AND ME No. 107, August. [5/30]

ARCHIE No. 273, August. [6/6]

ARCHIE COMIC DIGEST No. 31, August. [6/6]

BETTY AND ME No. 95, August. [6/6]

MADHOUSE COMICS DIGEST No. 4, August. [6/6]

SABRINA, THE TEEN-AGE WITCH No. 47, August. [6/6]

ARCHIE AT RIVERDALE HIGH No. 56, August. [6/13]

ARCHIE ANDREWS, WHERE ARE YOU DIGEST No. 7, August. [6/13]

ARCHIE'S TV LAUGHOUT No. 60, August. [6/13]

MAD HOUSE COMICS No. 113, August. [6/13]

EVERYTHING'S ARCHIE No. 68, August. [6/20]

JOSIE AND THE PUSSYCATS No. 97, August. [6/20]

REGGIE'S WISE-GUY JOKES No. 46, August. [6/20]

THAT WILKIN BOY No. 43, August. [6/20]

Harvey Coming Comics

HOT STUFF No. 146, September. [5/25]

RICHIE RICH AND CADBURY, THE PERFECT BUTLER No. 2, September. [5/25]

RICHIE RICH VAULTS OF MYSTERY No. 24, September. [5/25]

RICHIE RICH RICHES No. 38, September. [6/1]

SAD SACK No. 264, September. [6/1]

SUPER RICHIE No. 16, September. [6/1]

DEVIL KIDS No. 90, September. [6/8]

RICHIE RICH AND CASPER No. 25, September. [6/8]

RICHIE RICH DIAMONDS No. 38, September. [6/8]

RICHIE RICH No. 170, September. [6/15]

RICHIE RICH DOLLARS AND CENTS No. 87, September. [6/15]

RICHIE RICH FORTUNES No. 42, September. [6/15]

RICHIE RICH ZILLIONZ No. 11, September. [6/15]

RICHIE RICH BILLIONS No. 25, September. [6/22]

RICHIE RICH CASH No. 25, September. [6/22]

RICHIE RICH GOLD AND SILVER No. 20, September. [6/22]

SPOOKY No. 159, September. [6/22]

Krupp Comics News

THE SPIRIT #18 should be out by the end of this month. It can be ordered from Krupp Comic Works, Inc., P.O. Box 7, Princeton, WI 54968 for $1.50 plus 25¢ postage.

ST Pocket Checklist 15

June 1978

Marvel

- ☐ THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #184
- ☐ THE AVENGERS #175
- ☐ BLACK PANTHER #11
- ☐ CAPTAIN AMERICA #225
- ☐ CAPTAIN MARVEL #58
- ☐ CONAN THE BARBARIAN #90
- ☐ CRAZY #41
- ☐ DAREDEVIL #154
- ☐ DEFENDERS #63
- ☐ DEVIL DINOSAUR #6
- ☐ DYNOMUTT #6
- ☐ FANTASTIC FOUR #198
- ☐ GODZILLA #14
- ☐ HOWARD THE DUCK #27
- ☐ HANNA BARBERA TV STARS #1
- ☐ HANNA BARBERA'S SPOTLIGHT #1
- ☐ THE HUMAN FLY #13
- ☐ THE INCREDIBLE HULK #227
- ☐ THE INVADERS #32
- ☐ IRON MAN #114
- ☐ JOHN CARTER, WARLORD OF MARS #16
- ☐ JOHN CARTER ANNUAL #2
- ☐ LAFF-A-LYMPICS #7
- ☐ MACHINE MAN #6
- ☐ MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS #79
- ☐ MARVEL SUPER-HEROES #74
- ☐ MARVEL TALES #95
- ☐ MARVEL TEAM-UP #73
- ☐ MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE #43
- ☐ MASTER OF KUNG FU #68
- ☐ NOVA #21
- ☐ PIZZAZZ #10
- ☐ THE RAMPAGING HULK #10
- ☐ RAWHIDE KID #147
- ☐ RED SONJA #11
- ☐ SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN #32
- ☐ SGT. FURY #148
- ☐ THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN #22
- ☐ SPIDER-WOMAN #6
- ☐ SPIDEY SUPER STORIES #37
- ☐ STAR WARS #15
- ☐ TARZAN, LORD OF THE JUNGLE #16
- ☐ THOR #275
- ☐ THOR ANNUAL #7
- ☐ TOMB OF DRACULA #66
- ☐ YOGI BEAR #6
- ☐ THE X-MEN #113

Warren

- ☐ CREEPY #100
- ☐ EERIE #94
- ☐ FAMOUS MONSTERS OF FILMLAND #146
- ☐ 1984 #2
- ☐ VAMPIRELLA #71

National Lampoon

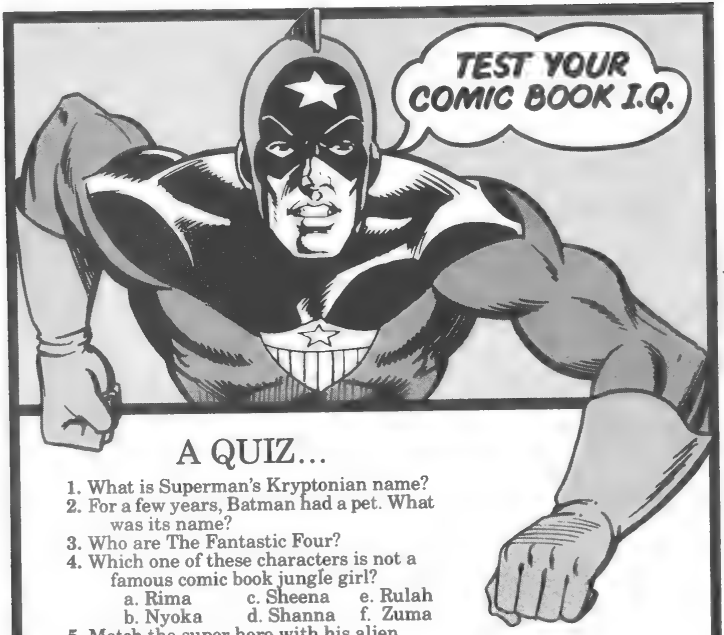
- ☐ HEAVY METAL #16
- ☐ NATIONAL LAMPOON #100

DC

- ☐ ACTION COMICS #487
- ☐ ADVENTURE COMICS #459
- ☐ ALL STAR COMICS #74
- ☐ BATMAN #303
- ☐ BATTLE CLASSICS #1
- ☐ BLACK LIGHTNING #11
- ☐ THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD #143
- ☐ DC COMICS PRESENTS #2
- ☐ DETECTIVE COMICS #479
- ☐ DOORWAY TO NIGHTMARE #5
- ☐ DYNAMIC CLASSICS #1
- ☐ THE FLASH #265
- ☐ GHOSTS #68
- ☐ GREEN LANTERN #108
- ☐ HOUSE OF MYSTERY #260
- ☐ JONAH HEX #16
- ☐ JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA #158
- ☐ KAMANDI, LAST BOY ON EARTH #59
- ☐ LIMITED COLLECTORS' EDITION C-61 (ACTION #1)
- ☐ MEN OF WAR #9
- ☐ OUR FIGHTING FORCES #181
- ☐ SGT. ROCK #320
- ☐ SHOWCASE #104 (O.S.S.)
- ☐ SUPERBOY & THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES #243
- ☐ SUPERMAN #327
- ☐ THE SUPERMAN FAMILY #191
- ☐ THE UNEXPECTED #187
- ☐ UNKNOWN SOLDIER #219
- ☐ WEIRD WAR TALES #67
- ☐ WEIRD WESTERN TALES #48
- ☐ THE WITCHING HOUR #84
- ☐ WONDER WOMAN #247

Gold Key

- ☐ THE BEAGLE BOYS #43
- ☐ BEETLE BAILEY #122
- ☐ BORIS KARLOFF TALES OF MYSTERY #83
- ☐ BUGS BUNNY #199
- ☐ DAFFY DUCK #117
- ☐ DAISY AND DONALD #82
- ☐ DONALD DUCK #198
- ☐ FAT ALBERT AND THE COSBY KIDS #26
- ☐ HUEY, DEWEY AND LOUIE #51
- ☐ LITTLE LULU #247
- ☐ LOONEY TUNES #21
- ☐ MICKEY MOUSE #186
- ☐ PINK PANTHER #55
- ☐ PORKY PIG #83
- ☐ RIPLEY'S BELIEVE IT OR NOT! #80
- ☐ STAR TREK #54
- ☐ SUPER GOOF #48
- ☐ TOM AND JERRY #309
- ☐ TWEETY AND SYLVESTER #84
- ☐ TWILIGHT ZONE #86
- ☐ UFO AND OUTER SPACE #16
- ☐ UNCLE SCROOGE #155
- ☐ UNDERDOG #20
- ☐ WALT DISNEY'S COMICS AND STORIES #455
- ☐ WINNIE THE POOH #8
- ☐ WOODY WOODPECKER #169
- ☐ YOSEMITE SAM AND BUGS BUNNY #54



A QUIZ...

1. What is Superman's Kryptonian name?
2. For a few years, Batman had a pet. What was its name?
3. Who are The Fantastic Four?
4. Which one of these characters is not a famous comic book jungle girl?
   a. Rima c. Sheena e. Rulah
   b. Nyoka d. Shanna f. Zuma
5. Match the super-hero with his alien friend:

a. Chameleon Boy	Zook
b. Space Ranger	Itty
c. Green Lantern (Modern)	Cryll
d. Martian Manhunter	Proty

6. What was the name of the high school attended by Archie and his gang?

The answers are in THE POW! ZAP! WHAM! COMIC BOOK TRIVIA QUIZ—1001 questions (and answers) to tease you, torture you, vault you to trivia stardom. Illustrated with nearly 100 famous comic book covers! Super-heroes and super-heroines at a super-low price.

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WILLIAM MORROW

CHICAGO COMICON

July 14, 15, 16, 1978

Guest of Honor

WILLIAM M. GAINES

New this year...

MARSHALL ROGERS

DICK GIORDANO

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Marvel Coming Attractions

HANNA-BARBERA TV STARS No. 1, August. We missed this on last month's schedule. When it comes out we'll know what's supposed to be in it. [5/9]

DAREDEVIL No. 154, September. "Arena" is by Roger McKenzie, Gene Colan and Steve Leialoha. The Purple Man holds Heather hostage while DD is forced to fight a passel of his former foes including The Gladiator, Mr. Hyde, The Cobra and The Jester, all mind-slaves of The Purple Man. Colan and Leialoha did the cover. [6/6]

GODZILLA No. 14, September. "The Super-Beasts" is by Doug Moench, Herb Trimpe and Dan Green. The Megabeast series is wrapped up with a battle over Salt Lake City as Red Ronan is destroyed and Dum Dum attempts to strike a friendship with Godzilla (proving how apropos his name really is). Trimpe and Green did the cover. [6/6]

MARVEL SUPER-HEROES No. 74, September. We made an error last time: This issue should have "At The Mercy Of Maximus The Mad" by Stan Lee and Herb Trimpe from INCREDIBLE HULK #119. [6/6]

THE SAVAGE SWORD OF CONAN No. 32, August. "The Night Of The Ghouls" by Roy Thomas, John Buscema and Tony DeZuniga is this issue's story. [6/6]

SPIDER-WOMAN No. 6, September. "End Of A Nightmare" is by Marv Wolfman, Carmine Infantino and Rick Bryant. Spider-Woman battles Morgaine Le Fay with the Werewolf By Night appearing for good measure. Infantino pencilled the cover. [6/6]

TOMB OF DRACULA No. 66, September. "Showdown In Greenwich Village" is by Marv Wolfman, Gene Colan and Tom Palmer. Dracula goes to a disco, is picked up a divorcee while searching for his daughter Lilith, and is shot by a cowboy. Colan and Palmer did the cover. [6/6]

CAPTAIN AMERICA No. 225, September. "Devastation" is by Steve Gerber, Sal Buscema, Mike Esposito and John Tartaglione. The secrets of Steve Rogers' boyhood and a shock ending conclude the search for Steve Rogers. Frank Robbins and Terry Austin did the cover. [6/13]

DYNOMUTT No. 6, September. Stories are by Mark Evanier and Paul Norris, and Evanier and Dan Spiegle. Norris did the cover. [6/13]

THE HUMAN FLY No. 13, September. "Slope Of Death" is by Bill Mantlo, Frank Springer and Steve Leialoha. The Fly skis down Mt. Whitney for charity, Carl Braden trys to get some close-up photos by following on a ski-sled, but gets too close and... Bob Lubbers and Bob McLeod did the cover. [6/13]

LAFF-A-LYMPICS No. 7, September. [6/13]

MARVEL'S GREATEST COMICS No. 79, September. Reprinted from FANTASTIC FOUR #97 is "The Monster From The Lost Lagoon" by Stan Lee, Jack Kirby and Frank Giacoia. [6/13]

MARVEL TWO-IN-ONE No. 43, September. "The Day The World Ran Down" is by Ralph Macchio, John Byrne and Sam Grainger. Deep in the Everglades, the Thing and Captain America are at the mercy of Jude The Entropic Man when enters The Man-Thing. Byrne and Walt

Simonson did the cover. [6/13]

THE RAMPAGING HULK No. 10, September. [6/13]

RED SONJA No. 11, September. "Sightless In A Strange Land" is by Roy Thomas, Clara Noto and Frank Thorne. Red is blind, but still Red (whatever that means). Thorne did the cover. [6/13]

YOGI BEAR No. 6, September. [6/13]

THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN No. 184, September. On the eve of graduation from Empire State, Spider-Man is involved in a Chinese gang war. "White Dragon, Red Death" is by Marv Wolfman, Ross Andru and Bob McLeod. Andru and McLeod did the cover. [6/20]

BLACK PANTHER No. 11, September. "Kiber The Cruel" is by Jack Kirby and Mike Royer. The Panther lies recuperating in hospital from his battle with Jakarra and Kiber The Cruel begins a reign of terror. Kirby and Joe Sinnott did the cover. [6/20]

CONAN THE BARBARIAN No. 90, September. "Diadem Of

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The Giant-Kings" is by Roy Thomas, John Buscema and Ernie Chan. Conan, Belit and Zula battle a one-eyed, one-legged, people-eating giant. John Buscema did the cover. [6/20]

DEVIL DINOSAUR No. 6, September. "Journey To The Center Of The Ants" is by Jack Kirby and Mike Royer. Moon-Boy is held captive by ants while they search for Devil, and the aliens are destroyed. Kirby and Sinnott did the cover. [6/20]

THE INCREDIBLE HULK No. 227, September. "The Monster's Analyst" is by Roger Stern, Sal Buscema and Klaus Janson. Doc Samson enters the Hulk's dream world, where Bruce Banner is in danger of being wiped out. Also -- the original Avengers. Herb Trimpe and Joe Rubinstein did the cover. [6/20]

THE INVADERS No. 32, September. Roy Thomas, Paul Kupperberg and Frank Springer offer another issue. Hitler summons Thor, who has yet to be taught humility through the Don Blake

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identity, and enlists him to fight for the Third Reich. Jack Kirby and Mike Royer did the cover. [6/20]

JOHN CARTER, WARLORD OF MARS ANNUAL No. 2, September. [6/20]

MARVEL TALES No. 95, September. "Suddenly... The Smasher" by Stan Lee, Gerry Conway, John Romita and Jim Mooney, is reprinted from AMAZING SPIDER-MAN #116. [6/20]

NOVA No. 21, September. Marv Wolfman, John Buscema and an inker help Rich Ryder reveal his secret identity to his parents. Carmine Infantino and Terry Austin did the cover. [6/20]

RAWHIDE KID No. 147, September. [6/20]

THOR No. 275, September. This issue is by Roy Thomas, John Buscema and Tom Palmer. Thor faces Loki -- who has or-

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ganized the Storm Giants into bringing Asgard to the brink of Ragnarok. Meanwhile, Hermod goes to Hell to ransom Balder's soul. Buscema did the cover. [6/20]

THOR ANNUAL No. 7, September. In a story by Roy Thomas, Walt Simonson and Klaus Janson, Thor meets the Eternals and they discover the secret origin of the Marvel Universe. [6/20]

X-MEN No. 113, September. "Showdown" is by Chris Claremont, John Byrne and Terry Austin. The final (for now) battle with Magneto occurs in the heart of a volcano -- and only three shall survive. Byrne and Bob Layton did the cover. [6/20]

THE AVENGERS No. 175, September. "The End... And Beginning" is by Jim Shooter, David Michelinie, Dave Wenzel and Pablo Marcos. Revealed at last is the secret of the man some men are wont to call -- Michael. George Perez and Terry Austin did the cover. [6/27]

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CAPTAIN MARVEL No. 58, September. "A Destroyer Denied" is by Doug Moench, Pat Broderick and Bob McLeod. CM tries to start over and moves to downtown Denver, but Drax attacks (and doubles on sax?) and tries to live up to his title. Also, Isaac returns. Dave Cockrum and Joe Rubinstein did the cover. [6/27]

FANTASTIC FOUR No. 198, September. "Invasion" is by Marv Wolfman, Keith Pollard and Joe Sinnott. Reed storms Castle Latveria to save his pals. Pollard and Sinnott did the cover. [6/27]

HANNA-BARBERA'S SPOTLIGHT No. 1, September. [6/27]

IRON MAN No. 114, September. "The Menace Of Arsenal" is by Bill Mantlo, Keith Giffen and Bruce Patterson. Deep in Avengers Mansion, the living armory called Arsenal attacks Tony Stark, and only Iron Man can save him. John Romita, Jr. and Patterson did the cover.

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[6/27]

MACHINE MAN No. 6, September. "Quick Trick" is by Jack Kirby and Mike Royer. Ten-For comes to an untimely end, and in the final battle with the Autocran Empire, X-51 loses an arm. Walt Simonson did the cover. [6/27]

MASTER OF KUNG FU No. 68, September. "Final Combats" is by Doug Moench, Mike Zeck and Bruce Patterson. Shang Chi and The Cat have their final battle too. Ernie Chan did the cover. [6/27]

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SGT. FURY #148, September. From SF #53, "To The Bastions Of Bavaria" by Gary Friedrich, Dick Ayers and John Severin is reprinted. [6/27]

THE SPECTACULAR SPIDER-MAN No. 22, September. Bill Mantlo, Mike Zeck and Bruce Patterson did this issue. Moon-Knight and Spider-Man team to face the Maggia. Dave Cockrum and Joe Rubinstein did the cover. [6/27]

SPIDEY SUPER STORIES No. 37, September. [6/27]

STAR WARS No. 15, September. Archie Goodwin, Carmine Infantino and Terry Austin did this issue and no one seems to know what it's about. Be surprised with us. [6/27]

THE DEFENDERS No. 63, September. David Kraft, Sal Buscema and Jim Mooney are responsible for "Tournament Of Heroes." Every free-lance superhero wants to be in the group (Stingray, Clea, Havok, Torpedo and Black Goliath are some of them), but everybody ends up fighting the Hulk. Joe Sinnott did the cover. [7/4]

HOWARD THE DUCK No. 27, September. "I'm Not Negative -- I'm Angry" is by Steve Gerber, Gene Colan and Klaus Janson. Howard decides to get physical, and with the help of Iris Raritan, they give it to The Ringmaster good. Colan and Joe Rubinstein did the cover. [7/4]

JOHN CARTER, WARLORD OF MARS No. 16, September. "The Master Assassin Of Mars" is by Chris Claremont, Ernie Colon and Rudy Nebres. Part one begins with John Carter dead. The adventure goes uphill from there. Colon and Nebres did the cover. [7/4]

MARVEL TEAM-UP No. 73, September. "I Fly In Vengeance" is by Bill Mantlo and Jim Mooney. Spider-Man and Daredevil team to battle The Owl. Keith Pollard and Bob McLeod did the cover. [7/4]

PIZZAZZ No. 10, July. [7/4]

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TARZAN No. 16, September. "Slavers" is by David Kraft, John Buscema and Klaus Janson. Tarzan meets the Mad Arab, a slaver who follows him into the inner world of Pellucidar. Buscema and Joe Rubinstein did the cover. [7/4]

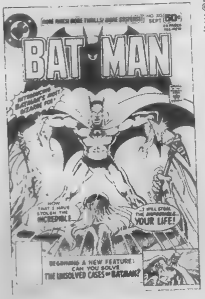
BATMAN No. 303, September. "Batman's Great Identity Switch"

is by David V. Reed, John Calnan and Dick Giordano. Batman becomes head of the Wayne Foundation and Bruce Wayne fights crime. Also, the first Unsolved Case Of The Batman is "If Justice Be Served" by Denny O'Neil, Mike Golden and Jack Abel. Jim Aparo did the cover. [5/29]

DOORWAY TO NIGHTMARE No. 5, September-October. "The Day Of The Devils" is by Scott Edelman, Romeo Tanghal and Vince Colletta. Madame Xanadu investigates another supernatural situation. Michael Kaluta did the cover. [5/29]

MEN OF WAR No. 9, September-October. "Gravedigger -- R.I.P" is by Roger McKenzie, Dick Ayers and Romeo Tanghal. Enemy Ace stars in a story that recounts his witnessing the death of his father, and it is by Robert Kanigher and Howard Chaykin. And Wayne Clifford returns in a Dateline:Frontline story called "Bathtub Blues," set in Africa. It's by Cary Burkett and Jerry Grandenetti. Joe Kubert did the cover. [5/29]

DYNAMIC CLASSICS No. 1, September-October. The focus is on the 1970s in this book and Batman is the first spotlighted hero, as "Secret Of The Waiting Graves" by Denny O'Neil, Neal Adams and Dick Giordano from DETECTIVE #395, is reprinted. The regular backup spot will be taken up by the Manhunter series, commencing with "The Himilayan Incident" by Archie Goodwin and Walt Simonson from DETECTIVE #437. Dick Giordano did the cover. [6/6]



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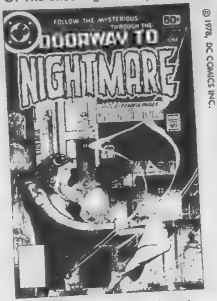
THE FLASH No. 265, September. "Shift The Earth Goodbye" is by Cary Bates, Irv Novick and Frank McLaughlin. Something untoward occurs as Barry and Iris go on their second honeymoon. And Kid Flash's friend is turned into a beast in "Secret Of The Shooting Star" by Paul



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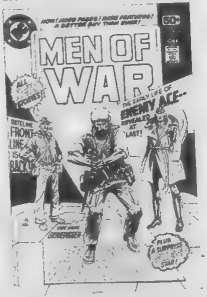
Kupperberg, Alex Saviuk and Bob Smith. Frank Giacoia inked Rich Buckler's cover. [6/6]

JONAH HEX No. 16, September. "The Wyandott Verdict" is by Michael Fleisher and Vicente Alcazar. An inventor attempts to prevent Hex's hanging for the murder of three men, while The Chameleon (the guilty one) and the Cane Man lurk in the shadows. Rich Buckler and Frank Giacoia did the cover. [6/6]



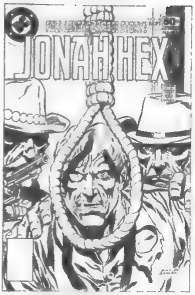
JUSTICE LEAGUE OF AMERICA No. 158, September. "The Super-Power Of Negative Thinking" is by Gerry Conway, Dick Dillin and Frank McLaughlin. The JLA loses its powers and must depend on Ultraa to defeat the entire

Injustice Gang. Rich Buckler and Frank Giacoia did the cover. [6/6]

OUR FIGHTING FORCES No. 181, September-October. "American Kamikaze" is by Robert Kanigher and George Evans, and features The Losers. Captain Storm is the solo star of "The Samurai Dies At Sunset" by Kanigher and E.R. Cruz. And a new series, HQ CONFIDENTIAL: SUPERSPY debuts with "Code Name -- Falcon" by Kanigher and Maurice Whitman. The spy is connected with the O.S.S. Joe Kubert did the cover. [6/6]

SUPERMAN No. 327, September. "The Sandstorm That Swallowed Metropolis" is by Martin Pasko, Curt Swan and Frank Chiaramonte. Kobra yanks Ma and Pa Kent from the past and threatens to kill them unless Superman does his bidding. Also, Earth II's Clark Kent and Lois Lane star in "Two Can Die As Cheaply As One" by Cary Bates, Kurt Schaffenberger and Joe Giella, the first episode in the Mr. & Mrs. Superman series. Rich Buckler and Frank Giacoia did the cover. [6/6]

THE UNEXPECTED No. 187, September-October. The stories in this issue are "Mangled In Madness" by George Kashdan and Ruben Yandoc; "Death Argues Loudest" by Roger McKenzie, Nardo Cruz and Edgar Bercasio; "A Frightening Fish Story" by Ernie Patricio; "City Of The Dead" by Bill Kunkel, Cruz and Tony Caravana; and "Freakout And Fright" by Carl Wessler and Noly Panaligan. Luis Dominguez is the cover artist. [6/6]



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ADVENTURE COMICS No. 459, September-October. Joining the 68 page line, ADVENTURE new features include: The Flash in "The Crimson Comets Of Fallville High" by Cary Bates, Irv Novick and Frank McLaughlin; Green Lantern in "The Call Of The Cosmos" by Cary Burkett, and Joe Staton; Wonder Woman in "The Shark's Dark Demand" by Jack C. Harris, Jack Abel and Frank Giacoia; Deadman in "Murder Haunts The Midway" by Len Wein and Jim Aparo; The Elongated Man in "The Case Of The Fortune Cookie Fortune" by Len Wein, Paul Levitz, Mike Gold, Ann DeLayre Gold, Steve Mitchell, George Rupert and Bruce Patterson; and the first part of "Climax Of Chaos" starring The New Gods by Gerry Conway, Don Newton and Augie Scotto. Jim Aparo did the cover. [6/13]

DC COMICS PRESENTS No. 2, September-October. Superman and The Flash star in "Race To The End Of Time" by Martin Pasko, Jose Luis Garcia-Lopez and Dan Adkins. The speedsters continue their race to save their respective roots. Jose Luis Garcia-Lopez and Dan Adkins did the cover. [6/13]

GHOSTS No. 68, September. This issue's features are "The Phantom Of The Class Of '76" by Carl Wessler and Jerry Grandenetti; "You Will Die Yesterday" by Wessler, Nardo Cruz and Edgar Bercasio; "The Spectral Stone" by Ruben Yandoc; "Funeral For A Phantom" by George Ruppert and Danny Bulanadi; and "The Ghost Who Would Not Die!" by George Kashdan, Ken Landgraf and Bulanadi. Luis Dominguez did the cover. [6/13]

SGT. ROCK No. 320, September. "Never Salute A Sergeant" is by Robert Kanigher and Frank Redondo. Rock is named top non-com in Europe, and doesn't like it. Gallery Of War stories are "Friend And Foe" and "The Most Dangerous Weapon" by

Robert Kanigher and members of the Joe Kubert School. Kubert did the cover. [6/13]

SHOWCASE No. 104, September. O.S.S. -- SPIES AT WAR is featured in "Graves With No Names" by Robert Kanigher and Ric Estrada, the secret origin of Control, Chief of the London Bureau by Kanigher and Bill Draut and "The Friendly Killers" by Kanigher and Estrada. Joe Kubert did the cover. [6/13]

WEIRD WAR TALES No. 67, September. "Attack Of The Undead" by Jack C. Harris and E.R. Cruz leads off the issue and is followed by "The Lost Ace" by Mark Manhart and Howie Chaykin and a reprint of "The Alien Among Us" by Jack Oleck and Mike Grell (from AMAZING WORLD OF DC COMICS). Joe Kubert did the cover. [6/13]

WEIRD WESTERN TALES No. 48, September-October. Scalphunter stars in "Slaveboat" by Gerry Conway, Dick Ayers and George Evans. Scalphunter leads a revolt on a slave ship. "Cinammon" begins the story of a female gunfighter out to avenge the killing of her father by her brother. Jim Sherman and Dick Giordano did the cover, Roger McKenzie and Jack Abel did the CINNAMON installment. [6/13]

BATTLE CLASSICS No. 1, September-October. "Suicide Mission" by Robert Kanigher and Joe Kubert is reprinted from BRAVE AND THE BOLD #52. Joe Kubert did the new cover. [6/20]

BLACK LIGHTNING No. 11, September-October. "All They Will Call You Will Be... Deportee" is by Denny O'Neil, Trevor Von Eeden and Vince Colletta. To catch a glimpse of the Screaming White Owl is to die, and guess who glimpses it? Also, The Ray leaves the Freedom Fighters in "The Rise And Fall Of The Ray" by Roger McKenzie, John Fuller and Bob Wiacek, the first of The Ray's three-part tryout. Rich Buckler and Colletta did the cover. [6/20]

THE BRAVE AND THE BOLD No. 143, September-October. Batman and The Creeper star in "Cast The First Stone" by Bob Haney, Cary Burkett and Jim Aparo. A TV network anchorman is accused of drug smuggling by Batman. Then, The Human

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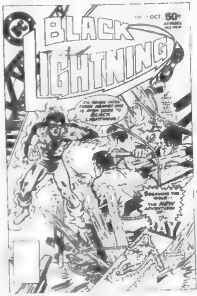
Target's origin is retold in a new story by Len Wein and Dick Giordano. Christopher Chance is hired to stand in for potential victim of murder who turns out to be the man that murdered his father. Aparo did the cover. [6/20]

HOUSE OF MYSTERY No. 260, September. Returning to monthly regular size, this issue features "A Demon Shared" by Joe Gill



and Noly Panaligan; "Dead Wrong" by T. Casey Brennan and Jerry Grandenetti; "Go To Hades" by Scott Edelman and Tony Henson; and "The Monster Of Darkwood Down" by Bob Toomey and Abe Ocampo. Michael W. Kaluta did the cover. [6/20]

LIMITED COLLECTORS' EDITION No. C-61, September. FAMOUS FIRST EDITION is revived with the reprinting of SUPERMAN No. 1, circa June, 1939 by Jerry Siegel and Joe Shuster. Neal Adams and Jose Garcia-Lopez contributed the front and back covers which, as before, surround the original's. [6/20]

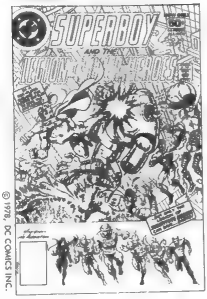
SUPERBOY AND THE LEGION OF SUPER-HEROES No. 243, September. "Earth's Last Stand" is by Paul Levitz, Joe Staton and Jack Abel. The Khunds defeat Earth while the Legion is intrigued on Weber's World. Mike Grell and Joe Rubinstein did the cover. [6/20]

THE SUPERMAN FAMILY No. 191, September-October. Superboy joins the line-up in "The Incredible Shrinking Town" by Tom DeFalco and Joe Staton. The other stories include: Jimmy Olsen, reunited with the new Newsboy Legion search in "Quest For The Guardian" by DeFalco, Kurt Schaffenberger and Tex Blaisdell; Supergirl and The Doom Patrol team up in "A Matter Of Gravity" by Gerry Conway, Arvell Jones and Romeo Tanghal; Lois Lane stars in "The Most Precious Plunder" by DeFalco, Win Mortimer and Vince Colletta; Krypto is featured in "The Hunters" by Bob Toomey and Juan Ortiz; Superman appears in "The Super-Hero Money Can't Buy" by Conway, Schaffenberger and Blaisdell; and Nightwing and Flamebird are the stars of "The Sealed Room" by Paul Kupperberg, Ken Landgraf and Tanghal. Rich Buckler and Dick Giordano did the cover. [6/20]

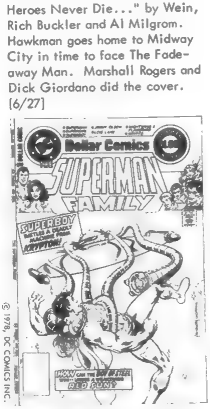
ACTION COMICS No. 487, September. "The Super Origin Of The Microwave Man" is by Cary Bates, Curt Swan and Frank Chiaramonte. The Microwave Man sets the Daily Planet globe afire and sends it hurtling toward the Galaxy Building. Also, The Atom returns in "The Miniature War Of The Bat-Knights" by Bob Rozakis, Alex Saviuk and Frank Chiaramonte. The Atom faces the Bat-Knights he met first in ATOM #22. Jose Garcia-Lopez did the cover. [6/27]

ALL-STAR COMICS No. 74, September-October. "The World On The Edge Of Ending" is by Paul Levitz, Joe Staton and Joe Giella. The JSA must do the bidding of The Master Summoner. Staton and Dick Giordano did the cover. [6/27]

DETECTIVE COMICS No. 479, "If A Man Be Made Of Clay" is

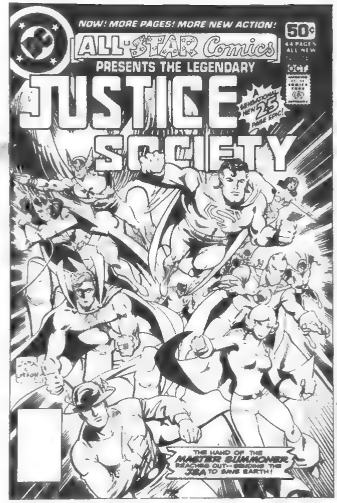


by Len Wein, Marshall Rogers and Dick Giordano. Batman has to defeat Clayface, a man he can't touch without being melted. In addition Hawkman returns to DETECTIVE in "True Heroes Never Die..." by Wein, Rich Buckler and Al Milgrom. Hawkman goes home to Midway City in time to face The Fadeaway Man. Marshall Rogers and Dick Giordano did the cover. [6/27]



GREEN LANTERN No. 108, September. "The Third Identity Of Replikon" is by Denny O'Neil, Mike Grell and Vince Colletta. An alien composite of Flash, Batman and Wonder Woman will destroy the world unless GL and Green Arrow can stop him. In the backup spot, Alan Scott stars in an Earth II adventure, "The Champion Of The Green Flame" by Cary Burkett, Mike Vosburg and Bob Smith. Grell did the cover. [6/27]

KAMANDI, THE LAST BOY ON EARTH No. 59, September-October. "The Wondrous Western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Wall" is by Jack C. Harris, Dick Ayers and Danny Bulanadi. Kamandi discovers the source of the Great Disaster but can't surmount the obstacle in the way. Also, Omac returns in "The Return Of Omac" as Jim Starlin and Joe Rubinstein begin a new series starring the One Man Army Corps and Brother Eye. Starlin and Rubinstein did the cover. [6/27]

UNKNOWN SOLDIER No. 219, September. "Laughter In Hell" is by Bob Haney, Dick Ayers and Romeo Tanghal. Hitler believes UK to be dead and sends his minion out to masquerade as him.

"Frogman" begins a new series by Scott Edelman and Fred Carrillo, and "The Edge Of History" completes the package. It's by Elliot Maggin, Frank Miller and Danny Bulanadi. Joe Kubert did the cover. [6/27]

THE WITCHING HOUR No. 84, September. Stories in this one include "Of Greed And Mummy" by Carl Wessler and Fred Carrillo; "Age Of Death" by Wessler and Ernie Patricio; "Never Wed A Warlock" by Wessler and Rico Rival; "Mountain Of Fear" by George Kashdan and Bill Payne; and "Think Murder" by Persons

Unknown. Luis Dominguez did the cover. [6/27]

WONDER WOMAN No. 247, September. "The Inside Out Man" is by Jack C. Harris, Jose Delbo and Joe Giella. Wonder Woman is menaced by Inversion, an unfortunate whose organs are on the outside. The Amazons take over the rest of the book with "The Amazons" by Bob Toomey and Maurice Whitman recounting Queen Hippolyte leading a revolt against Hercules and the subsequent search for Paradise Island. Rich Buckler and Dick Giordano did the cover. [6/27]

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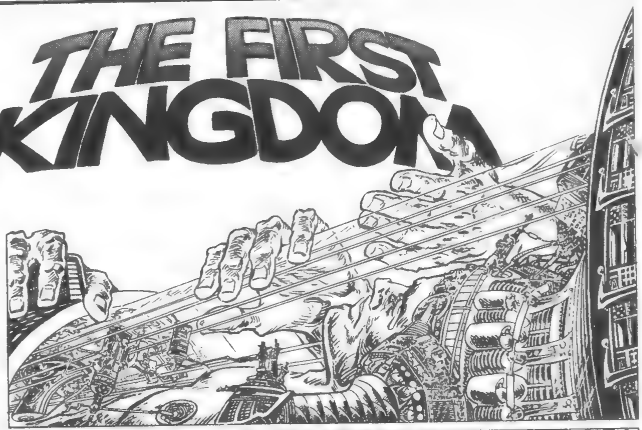

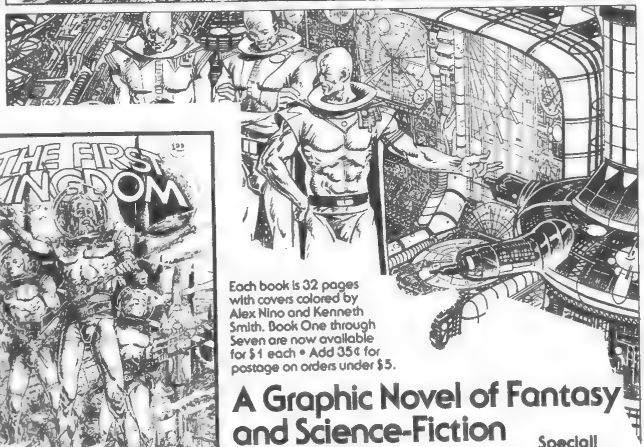

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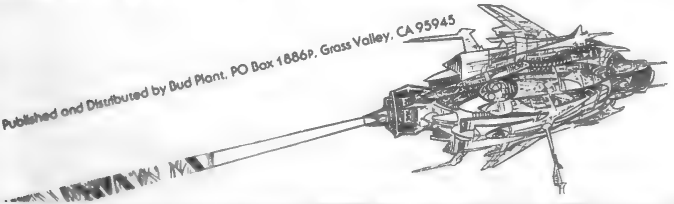

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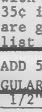

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